

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 HELSIN 01157 040716 Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 031528 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6051

S E C R E T HELSINKI 1157

EXDIS

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (T E X T)

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE: CBM: POLICY ON MILITARY " MOVEMENTS "

REF: STATE 083486

1. VEST SAW MENDELEVICH ON MAY 3 AND DREW FULLY ON PARAGRAPH
3 OF REFTEL TO PRESENT CASE FOR " MAJOR MILITARY MOVEMENTS."

2. MENDELEVICH WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN ARGUMENT IN
PARAGRAPH 3 F ON AN ILLUSTRATIVE LIST WHICH HE SAID WAS A NEW
PROPOSAL FOR HIM. HE WAS REASSURED AT THE DEGREE OF NATIONAL
CONTROL AND THE EXTENT OF MUTUAL EXAMPLE WHICH WAS EMBODIED IN
SUCH AN IDEA. HOWEVER, IN SPITE OF VEST' S STRESS ON THE
COOPERATION WHICH WOULD NECESSARILY FLOW FROM THE EXCHANGE OF

SUCH LISTS, MENDELEVICH WAS WORRIED BY THE POSSIBILITY THAT
THE SOVIET LIST WOULD VERY LIKELY BE MUCH SHORTER THAN THAT OF
THE US AND THUS THAT THE USSR WOULD BE PRESSURED BY
THE SITUATION.

3. HE EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD HAD FOR A TIME, HOPES FOR SOME
FLEXIBILITY IN THIS AREA. HOWEVER, DURING THE EASTER BREAK, THE
MOSCOW AUTHORITIES HAD EXAMINED THE SUBJECT IN DETAIL,
INCLUDING HIS PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS ON THE SUBJECT, AND HE NOW
HAD INSTRUCTIONS THAT-- AS HE HAD VOLUNTEERED IN US- SOVIET
SECRET

SECRET

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BILATERAL CONVERSATION OF MAY 2-- REQUIRED HIM " CATEGORICALLY"
TO REJECT THE ALLIED PROPOSAL FOR PRIOR NOTIFICATION OF MAJOR
TROOP MOVEMENTS.

4. FURTHER HE HAD NO RPT NO AUTHORITY TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS
FOR ANY COMPROMISE FOMULAE. HE HAD THE IMPRESSION, HE SAID,
THAT THE FRG DID NOT ATTACH MUCH IMPORTANCE TO THIS PROPOSAL
AND HE HOPED THE US WOULD NOT EITHER. HE THOUGHT THAT A SIMPLE
REFERENCE TO" MAJOR MILITARY MANEUVERS" WOULD IN PRACTICE MAKE
LITTLE REAL DIFFERENCEDURING THE CONFERENCE. IN PHASE II
WE WOULD PROBABLY END UP WITH MUCH THE SAME RESULTS.

5. THUS MENDELEVICH, AS ANTICIPATED, WAS RESOLUTELY NEGATIVE
AND HAD NO ALTERNATIVE FORMULA. MIN- GROUP WILL DISCUSS CBM
PARAGRAPH NEXT WEEK.

6. RECOMMEND THAT VEST BE AUTHORIZED TO INFORM ALLIED DELS
HERE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF SOVIET ATTITUDE. WE EXPECT NUMBER
OF ALLIES WILL INSIST THAT DECISION ON " MOVEMENTS" BE DECIDED
IN NATO RATHER THAN BY MPT NEGOTIATORS. IF SO, WE SHOULD
ARRANGE TOPURSUE QUESTION IN NATO, OBTAIN APPROVAL THERE FOR
ALLIED REPS HERE TO LOOK FOR COMPROMISE OR TO DROP MOVEMENTS,
IN LINE WITH THINKING OF PARA 2, REFTEL.

7. DEPT REQUEST REPEAT TO USNATO.
WHITE

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** EXDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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